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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

**To:** Central Fax Center  
**Firm:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
**Facsimile No.:** 571-273-8300  
**From:** William S. Frommer  
**Date:** April 17, 2006  
**Re:** Serial No. 10/612,238  
Attorney Docket 450100-04655  
**No. of Pages:** 4  
(including cover page)

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00366198

APR 17 2006

PATENT  
450100-04655IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tetsujiro KONDO et al.

Serial No. : 10/612,238

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING INFORMATION, STORAGE MEDIUM AND PROGRAM

Filed : July 2, 2003

Examiner : Brian P. Yenke

Art Unit : 2622

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151  
Tel: 212-588-0800Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.  
☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below.  
☐ This is an application of a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9(f), and the amounts shown in parentheses apply.

Claims as Amended

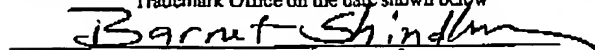
(1)	(2) Claims remaining after amendment	(3)	(4) Highest number previously paid for	(5) Present extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total claims	32	Minus	** = 32	*0x	\$50 (25)	= \$0
Independent claims	8	Minus	*** = 8	*0x	\$200 (100)	= \$0
Total additional fee for this amendment						\$0

- \* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.  
 \*\* If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.  
 \*\*\* If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

- ☐ This application contains a multiple dependent claim. The required fee of \$360(180) has been previously paid ☐ or is paid herewith ☐.
- ☐ This response is being filed within the \_\_\_ month following the expiration of the term originally set therefore. This is a petition to request a \_\_\_ month extension of time. A check covering the cost of the petition is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_ is attached, which covers the cost of ☐ additional claims ☐ petition for extension of time.
- ☐ Charge \$ \_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- ☒ Please charge any additional fees incurred by reason of this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

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Person signing certification

Signature

April 17, 2006

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for ApplicantsBy: William S. Frommer  
Reg. No. 25,506  
Tel: 212-588-0800

00366197

APR 17 2006

PATENT  
450100-04655**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Tetsujiro KONDO et al.  
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STORAGE MEDIUM AND PROGRAM  
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745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151**FACSIMILE**

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Barnet Shindler

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person signing certification

Barnet Shindler

Signature

April 17, 2006

Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR  
ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Mail Stop **Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action which issued in the above-identified application  
on March 29, 2006, requiring an election of species among those species identified by the  
Examiner as follows:

Species I, Fig. 1; and

Species II, Fig. 14.

PATENT  
450100-04655

Figs. 1 and 14 are very similar -- Fig. 1 includes feature value extractor 56 and Fig. 14 does not. As a result, claims 1-32 read on Fig. 1, and claims 1-5 and 9-32 read on Fig. 14.

From the foregoing, it is seen that claims 1-5 and 9-32 are generic because they read on both of the drawing figures enumerated by the Examiner.

Applicants elect, without traverse, Species II (Fig. 14), on which claims 1-5 and 9-32 read.

Since claims 1-5 and 9-32 are generic, if any of these generic claims eventually is allowed, it is recognized that the instant requirement for an election of species will be withdrawn; and all claims which include the limitations of the generic claims, irrespective of the particular species on which those claims read, likewise will be allowed.

Applicants reserve their right to file one or more divisional applications, if necessary, to proceed with the examination of the non-elected claims.

An early examination on the merits of the claims of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: 

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